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D. REMARKS

Claims 7 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner has pointed out errors in the recitations of certain compounds. By way of this amendment, claims 7 and 18 have been rewritten to correct these errors and it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-19 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-34 of U.S. Patent No. 6,353,077. Applicants are submitting herewith an appropriate terminal disclaimer. Accordingly, it is submitted that the double patenting rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9, 10, and 13-17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,427,003 (Fennimore et al.) in view of EP Patent 0035517 (Garwood et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed in light of the present amendment.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that the second catalyst includes a hydrophillic coating. Independent claims 14 and 17 have been amended to include similar limitations. This coating protects the water-soluble catalyst from aging until the bandage is intentionally hydrated, as explained in paragraph [0037] of the specification. Fennimore et al. teaches a bandage with a curable resin composition which may include a water soluble catalyst. Garwood et al. teaches that a tertiary amine may be used in a prepolymer for a curable resin. Coating of a water soluble catalyst is clearly not disclosed or suggested by Fennimore et al. or Garwood et al., alone or in combination. Accordingly, it is submitted that Fennimore et al. in view of Garwood et al. fails to teach every limitation of amended claims 1, 14, or 17 and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-13 depend from independent claim 1, while claims 15 and 16 depend from

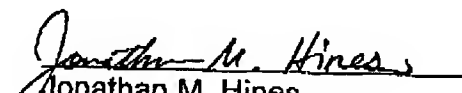
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independent claim 14. These dependent claims are thus believed to be allowable for the reasons stated above.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the objections and rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 1-8 and 10-19 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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